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NIS COMMITTEE MEETING NO. 266

6 May 1958

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1. The following were present:

Mr. D. J. Clinton	State
Col. D. H. Smith	Army
Mr. J. A. Minogue	Army
Lt. D. P. Harvey	Navy
Lt. Col. H. K. Avery	Air Force
	CIA (Chapter I Coordinator)
	CIA (Chapter I Editor)
	CIA (Chairman)
	CIA (Vice Chairman)
	CIA (Secretary)

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2. NIS Annuals

The members reported that their agencies had reviewed the paper "Concept of the NIS Annual" which had been introduced by the chairman at the last meeting (refer to Item 2 NCM 265), and considered it sound in principle.

The main question that led to considerable Committee discussion concerned the matter of capabilities. The Army member proposed the elimination of the Introduction Sections of the regular NIS chapters (i. e., Sections 20, 30, 40, etc.) in order to permit full production on other NIS sections and, at the same time, have sufficient capabilities to produce the necessary Annuals. He reasoned that these Introduction Sections were somewhat duplicative of the related Chapter I sections, and could therefore be eliminated without substantive loss to the NIS.

The chairman pointed to an important difference between the Introduction and Chapter I sections, in that an Introduction Section is not a mere summary of the other sections of a chapter but an integrated presentation, including new material which can be more appropriately so treated than elsewhere in the chapter. He cited, for example, the treatment of military manpower, mobilization policies, and high command structure in Section 80 which appear nowhere else in Chapter VIII; also the unique contributions of

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Sections 20, 70, and 90 to their respective chapters. In view of these situations, he considered any action on the part of the Committee to defer production of NIS sections in order to produce Annuals should be on an ad hoc yearly basis. He also considered that the Introduction Sections of some chapters could be deferred where capabilities were insufficient to accomplish all NIS schedules, but the requirement for eventually producing Introduction Sections was essential and should not be changed.

The question of a more definitive outline guide for analysts preparing NIS Annuals was discussed, and the matter was left for individual agency determination to suit the different situations in the several agencies. The Committee re-affirmed its position that a formal outline guide for the NIS Annual should await further experience with this project.

The service members felt that the name "Annual" would tend to confuse users as to its nature, purpose, and frequency of publication. The chairman replied that the use of the title "Annual" out of context might cause confusion, but not when considered with relation to the Annual Foreword, which clearly indicates "that Chapters I will be reviewed on an approximately yearly basis and that NIS Annuals will be published, in accordance with agency capabilities, for those chapters in which major changes have occurred, for which information has become available to fill major gaps, or both." The important connotation is the annual review of Chapters I and the issuance of NIS Annuals on an annual basis for those Chapters I that require it in terms of the above concept to insure continuing validity of Chapters I and to preserve user confidence.

The Committee received reports from the State and Army members on areas to be considered for NIS Annual issuance during the forthcoming fiscal year. The chairman requested the other members to prepare similar lists for consideration at the next meeting, at which time he would submit lists from the CIA coordinators.

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3. The next meeting of the NIS Committee will be held at 1000 hours on Tuesday, 13 May 1958 25X1A9a

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